

BAC Draft Resolutions February 2023

MPRB Draft Plan for Cedar Lake and Lake of the Isles

The Minneapolis Bicycle Advisory Committee applauds the work of Minneapolis Park Board staff and Community Advisory Committee members who unanimously approved a number of improvements which will make it safer and more comfortable to walk, bike, and use around the lakes and surrounding parkland.

While we support safety improvements along the northwest section of Cedar Lake's crowded bicycle and pedestrian paths, we believe an 8' wide two-way bicycle path is still too narrow and urge the Park Board to consider widening it to a 10' width.

The soft-surface bicycle trail between the Cedar Lake Regional trail and Upton Avenue will provide additional safety and comfort to all park users in the East Cedar woods which also serves as a bicycle connector between the Cedar Lake Regional trail and Upton Avenue. This trail will provide a safe, designated route for cyclists who wish to circumnavigate Cedar Lake within the East Cedar woods and park. It will also provide designated spaces for bicyclists that are separate from pedestrians, reducing mixed use conflict.

We support the addition of a two-way, above curb bike facility when Lake of the Isles Parkway is reconstructed in the future and in the meantime urge MPRB to consider a contraflow, buffered bikeway with bollards on the parkway to enhance safety for all park users.

METRO B Line/Lake Street Improvements – protected bikeway between East Bde Maka Ska Parkway and Humboldt Ave S

The Minneapolis Bicycle Advisory Committee is appreciative that the City requested a bike facility review along Hennepin Avenue and the County's proposal. We are excited about the proposed north-side, two-way protected bike facility between East Bde Maka Ska Parkway and Humboldt Avenue South. We are disappointed with the determination that the bikeway cannot continue one more block to Hennepin Avenue, where it would connect to the heart of the Uptown neighborhood and the new Hennepin Avenue Bikeway.

We request that the City and County give further consideration to extending the proposed bikeway to Hennepin Avenue. It is identified as a near term, low stress bikeway on the Minneapolis All Ages and Abilities Network. The pandemic, along with the police related civilian deaths, incurred these past three years have caused significant trauma for the Uptown neighborhood and its businesses. The new Metro B line and a bikeway between Bde Maka Ska and Hennepin could help revitalize and reinvent the Hennepin-Lake intersection improving multi-modal accessibility.

Green Central Safe Routes to School – 30% Design Review

The Minneapolis Bicycle Advisory Committee supports this project as presented. We are excited about the two-way curb protected bikeway between Green Central Elementary and Powderhorn park, the safety enhancements at the major intersections at Park, Portland and Chicago Avenue as well as other intersections along 34th St and 10th Avenue.

Project staff presented several updates and significant detail since their 10% presentation in November 2022. They acknowledged the BAC's recommendations and we believe it is a more cohesive, safe and understandable design. We are appreciative of staff efforts to share with us these updates and the engagement they are doing with the community.